



1 March 2022

Education Committee
Connecticut General Assembly

Re: HB 5285 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Dear Education Committee:

This letter is in support of HB5285 to add the teaching of climate change issues in public schools.

Climate change is the most critical issue facing humanity.

While it is painful to think our young people will face the worst of what is to come, we cannot allow them to go blindly into the future unprepared. It is very important that we, who are part of the generations that have contributed to the problem, teach the next generations what they will need to know to survive and thrive. That includes resiliency and skills to mitigate the effects of climate change.

The next generations will need many skills. Among other things, they will need to know how to ensure clean water is available to all; how to produce healthy food appropriate for specific bioregions with changing weather patterns; sustainably obtain materials for housing; and better deal with waste.

Technologies and techniques are available now and it is our responsibility to teach students about them. Climate change resiliency is the most important skill we can give upcoming generations.

The Connecticut Conservation Districts are working on these issues now and are resources available to citizens and schools to help teach skills needed to adapt to climate change.

Sincerely,

CM Rabinowitz

Cynthia Rabinowitz
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New England; Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists)

